

Carnival Spirit "Rocks" Aruba

Eveline Croes Is Island Queen

Carnival, festive enough "to rock the sky above, the land beneath and the seas around us," rioted through Aruba last week and left the island breathless after three days of merry-making.

Queens, bands, music, dances, parties and parades highlighted the traditional celebration of the period immediately preceding the start of Lent. Carnival events ranged from Oranjestad to San Nicolas and included most of the island's social and athletic organizations.

Highlight of the celebration was the election of the "Carnival Queen of Aruba" the night of Feb. 19 at the Lago Sport Park. Some 5000 spectators jammed into the park to see 14 young ladies, elected "Queens" of various local organizations, compete for the island-wide title and the trip-to-Trinidad first prize.

The Excelsior Brass Band kicked off the festivities arranged by the Central Carnival Committee by parading into the stadium with all instruments blaring. Then Master of Ceremonies C. I. Tromp of Lago's Industrial Relations Department announced that his fellow employee, C. E. Lacle, has been chosen "Prince of Carnival."

Resplendent in royal attire, the prince urged his subjects to join him in celebrating a carnival festive enough "to rock the sky above, the land beneath and the seas around us" and declared the celebration officially open.

He called for the queen candidates, each of whom had driven onto the field in an automobile. As her name was called each hopeful, in a formal gown, was introduced to the crowd, curtsied to the judges and took her place on the stage.

After all had been introduced the 10-member judging panel, headed by Lt. Gov. Dr. L. C. Kwartz, retired to make their selection. During the judges' deliberations the Excelsior and Princess Marijke bands played.

After some 30 minutes the judges reappeared and announced the winner — Miss Eveline Croes, queen of the Tivoli Club. Miss Marie Matthews, daughter of Alvin Matthews of Lago's Mechanical Department, was named her lady-in-waiting and won a trip to Curaçao.

Miss Croes was crowned by Gov. Kwartz. After the coronation the queen and the other candidates, the judges, carnival committee members and guests went to the Netherlands Windward Islands Welfare Association club house to toast the queen.

The next day the center of attrac-

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SOME 5,000 persons saw Eveline Croes (center) crowned "Carnival Queen of Aruba" at the Lago Sport Park the night of Jan. 19. Olga Phillips, the sport park queen, is second from left.

MAS o menos 5,000 hende a mira Eveline Croes (mei-mej) coroná "Reina di Carnaval di Aruba" na Lago Sport Park Jan. 19 anochi. Olga Phillips, reina di sport park, ta segundo fo'i banda robez.

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"Carnival"

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tion shifted to Oranjestad where the Carnival Parade got underway at 3 p.m. Headed by the Lago Community band the parade wound throughout the town. In the line of march were the queen and all the candidates, over 90 motorized floats, calypso bands and dancers, brass bands, dancing troupes and mounted cowboys.

The parade, which took 2½ hours to pass the reviewing stand, wound up at the Wilhelmina Stadium.

The weekend was marked by carnival parties and dances staged by various organizations and private individuals.